IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute currently amended claim numbers 1, 2 and 26 for the pending claims having the same claim numbers.

1. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition, ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a therapeutically effective amount of ~~at least~~ one of the botanical plants selected from the group consisting of Actaea rubra, Anemone hepatica, Anemone nemorosa, Nigella-sativa, and Ranunculus arvensis, or extracts thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the ~~at least~~ one of the botanical plants is present in a concentration of not less than 20% weight per volume.

2. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a therapeutically effective amount of Anemone hepatica and Nigella sativa, or extracts thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the Nigella sativa is present in a concentration of not less than 20% weight per volume.

3. (canceled)

4. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form of a tablet or capsule.

5. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form of a liquid or suspension.

6. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form of a sterile preparation for intra-muscular, subcutaneous, or intra-venous injection.

7. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form of nasal spray.

8. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form of a topical application.

9. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form of a transdermal system.

10. (original) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form of suppository.

11. (withdrawn) A method of treating hepatic disorders, comprising administration of a composition according to claim 1 to a patient requiring such treatment.

12. (withdrawn) A method of treating hepatic disorders, without adversely affecting the hemoglobin blood level, comprising administration of a composition according to claim 1 to a patient requiring such treatment.

13. (withdrawn) A method of treating hepatic disorders caused by hepatitis C virus infection, comprising administration of a composition according to claim 1 to patients with clinical stages 0/6, 1/6, 2/6, and 3/6, with corresponding hepatic activity index ranging from 1/18 to 9/18, requiring such treatment.

14. (withdrawn) A method of treating hepatic disorders caused by hepatitis C virus infection, comprising administration of a composition according to claim 1 to patients with clinically advanced stages, i.e. 4/6, 5/6, and 6/6, with corresponding hepatic activity index ranging from 7/18 to 13/18, requiring such treatment.

15. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 11, wherein the hepatic disorders result from chronic hepatitis.

16. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 11, wherein the hepatic disorders result from genotypes I, II, III, IV.

17. (withdrawn) A method of treating immunological disorders, comprising administration of a composition according to claim 1 to a patient with a compromised immune system requiring such treatment.

18. (withdrawn) A method of increasing the natural killer cell populations, comprising administration of a composition according to claim 1 to a patient requiring such treatment.

19. (withdrawn) A method of increasing the blood platelet count, comprising administration of a composition according to claim 1 to a patient requiring such treatment.

20. (withdrawn) A method of decreasing the viral load of liver-cancer patients, comprising administration of a composition according to claim 1 to a patient requiring such treatment.

21. (withdrawn) A method according to any of claims 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the treatment is therapeutic.

22. (withdrawn) A method according to any of claims 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, or 20, wherein the treatment is prophylactic.

23. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein the extracts are present in a relative ratio to each other of about 1% by weight to about 95% by weight of Actaea rubra; about 1% by weight to about 95% by weight of Anemone hepatica;

about 1% by weight to about 95% by weight of Anemone nemorosa; about 1% by weight to about 95% by weight of Nigella sativa; and about 1% by weight to about 95% by weight of Ranunculus arvensis.

24. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein the extracts are present in a relative ratio to each other of about 2% by weight to about 90% by weight of Actaea rubra; about 2% by weight to about 90% by weight of Anemone hepatica; about 2% by weight to about 90% by weight of Anemone nemorosa; about 2% by weight to about 90% by weight of Nigella sativa; and about 2% by weight to about 90% by weight of Ranunculus arvensis.

25. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein the extracts are present in a relative ratio to each other of about 5% by weight to about 15% by weight of Actaea rubra; about 40% by weight to about 87% by weight of Anemone hepatica; about 2% by weight to about 7% by weight of Anemone nemorosa; about 4% by weight to about 12% by weight of Nigella sativa; and about 7% by weight to about 23% by weight of Ranunculus arvensis.

26. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a therapeutically effective amount of Nigella sativa, or an extract thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the Nigella sativa is present in a concentration of not less than 20% weight per volume.

27. (previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1, 2, or 26, wherein the composition is effective for treating patients suffering from hepatitis and for increasing the number of immune cells and platelets in said patients.

28. (previously presented) The composition of claim 27, wherein the patients suffering from hepatitis exhibit advanced stage hepatitis characterized by fibrosis and cirrhosis, and are in stages 4 through 6 of the disease process.